

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 231556
ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/S: JCTAYLOR:GFH
APPROVED BY AF/S: LEWIS MACFARLANE
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R 130247Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E.O. 11652: DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON MOTLANA BANNING

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED FOR USE AT
DEPARTMENT'S NOON PRESS BRIEFING SEPTEMBER 7, BUT
WAS NOT USED IN ABSENCE OF QUESTION. IT IS BEING
PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND POSSIBLE USE.

2. BEGIN TEXT: QUESTION: WHAT COMMENT DO YOU HAVE ON
THE NEWS REPORT FROM YESTERDAY THAT DR. NTHATO MOTLANA,
OF THE SOWETO GROUP OF 10, HAS BEEN BANNED?

ANSWER: WHEN VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE MET WITH PRIME
MINISTER VORSTER LAST MAY, HE EXPRESSED OUR VIEW THAT
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SOME KIND OF PROCESS BEGIN IN SOUTH
AFRICA WHEREBY WHITE AND BLACK LEADERS CONSULT ON AND
DISCUSS THE POLITICAL FUTURE OF THEIR COUNTRY. WE
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CONSIDER DR. MOTLANA TO BE ONE OF THOSE BLACK SOUTH
AFRICANS WHO HAS BEEN PLAYING A LEADERSHIP ROLE IN
ATTEMPTING TO FURTHER THIS KIND OF PROCESS. WHILE
THE BANNING ORDER IS LIMITED IN ITS SCOPE AND DURATION.
WE NONETHELESS SEE THIS ACTION AS A REGRETTABLE ONE,
WHICH IN OUR VIEW CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO
PEACEFUL CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, BRIEFING MATERIALS
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Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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